

The K.F.A. Bulletin

February
1989





KJA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President	DAVID OVADIA	(415) 566-0277
Secretary	JOSETTE SELIM	(408) 268-8357
Treasurer	JOE KHEDER	(408) 361-5037

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ABRAHAM MASSUDA	(408) 274-1064
TEWFIK MOURAD	(408) 735-1518
ELIE MOUSSA	(415) 591-6183
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JOE PESSAH	(415) 941-2115
MAURICE PESSAH	(408) 629-1229
JOE RASSON	(415) 820-5506

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KJA COMMITTEE'S CHAIRPERSONS

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RELIGIOUS AND	JOE PESSAH	(415) 941-2115
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FUND RAISING	JOE RASSON	(415) 820-5506

President's Message

Dear Members:

There has been a lot of interest about Karaites. Many congregations around the San Francisco Bay Area have invited some of our members to speak before their congregants about the Karaism. Their interest is genuine because the diversity of religious practice among American Jews, Orthodox, Conservative and Reform, made them aware of us. In addition periodic publications about the Geniza fragments often mentioned work or fragment relating to Karaites.

We should not conceal our identity and should let the other Jews know about us. By talking to our fellow Jews about our heritage and history and the great wealth of information our ancestors created during the golden era will make them aware of us. I encourage every member to talk about his Karaism and perhaps give a talk about Karaites in Synagogues or Jewish gathering.

Please write me a note or call if you need materials to prepare a talk about Karaite Jews.

In December, we had the first Karaite Bar Mitzvah in the United States. The Bar Mitzvah was for David Pessah, Joe Pessah's son. Congratulations David, we are proud of you. David is one of the young Karaites who attend our services on Saturday on a regular basis and conduct part of the service. These young Karaite will become our future leaders.

Joe Abel
President, KJA

SELECTED TOPICS FROM THE KJA BOARD MEETINGS:

- THE BOARD SPENT MANY HOURS DISCUSSING LAND AND SYNAGOGUE OPTIONS.

- JOE PESSAH RECEIVED TWO COPIES OF MAAYAN HAYIM, IN HEBREW, WRITTEN BY RABBI HAYIM LEVY. JOE SUMMARIZED THE BOOK ON PAGES 5, 6 & 7 OF THIS BULLETIN.

- JOE KHERER ANNOUNCED THAT ALL DEPOSITS AS OF 11/16/88 WERE 235,993.07.

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

SITTING DOWN FROM LEFT:

TEWFIK MOURAD, JOE ABEL, JOSETTE SELIM, FORTUNEE LICHAA
FIRST ROW FROM LEFT:

JOE KHERER, JOE PESSAH, MAURICE PESSAH, ELIE MOUSSA

SECOND ROW FROM LEFT:

JOE RASSON, JOE MOUSSA, DAVID OVADIA, ABRAHAM MASSUDA

THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN IN SEPTEMBER, 1988 DURING THE KJA BOARD MONTHLY MEETING.





"TO OUR FUTURE HAZZAN" HOW WELL FIT WERE THESE WORDS DECORATING YOUR BAR MITZVAH CAKE. YOU CONDUCTED THE PRAYER SO WELL THAT YOU MADE US ALL SO PROUD. YOUR BAR MITZVAH WAS THE FIRST KARAITE BAR MITZVAH IN THE U.S. AND IT WON'T BE THE LAST. YOUR COUSIN SHAWN ASKED TO HAVE A BAR MITZVAH JUST LIKE YOURS. MANY PEOPLE CAME TO THE SYNAGOGUE, INCLUDING FROM OTHER STATES THAT ONE FELT THAT WE WERE IN A CAIRO SYNAGOGUE WHERE EVERYONE KNEW EACH OTHER. YOU EXPRESSED YOUR FEELINGS IN THE S. F. JEWISH BULLETIN TOWARD THAT BEAUTIFUL DAY (PRINTED IN THE BACK OF THE CALENDAR INSERT). PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE NO 10,000 KARAITE FAMILIES IN THE U.S. AGAIN, CONGRATULATION FOR THIS SPLENDID EFFORT.

FRED LICHAA

KJA ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WILL BE A PURIM PARTY ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19TH AT 4:00 PM AT THE MILBRAE RECREATION CENTER. MAKE A POINT TO COME FOR A WELL PLANNED EVENING.

THE KJA ANNUAL PICNIC WILL BE JULY 4TH. MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PREPARE YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES BECAUSE THIS YEAR IT WILL BE POT LUCK. (KOSHER FOOD ONLY PLEASE)

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

MAZEL TOV TO MR. & MRS HENRY PESSAH OF BURLINGAME CA. ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON NICHOLAS, JAMES. PROUD GRANDMOTHER IS SARINA PESSAH.

BAT MITZVAH

MAZEL TOV TO DESIREE WHO CELEBRATED HER BAT MITZVAH IN JANUARY, 1989 IN CLAREMONT, CA. PROUD PARENTS ARE MR. & MRS. NEVILLE MARZWELL.

GRADUATIONS

MAZEL TOV TO HABIB LICHAA FOR GRADUATING FROM SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY WITH INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR. PROUD PARENTS ARE MAURICE & FORTUNEE LICHAA OF DALY CITY, CA.

EDUCATION FUND

TODAH RABBAH TO ZEV BRINNER FOR HIS GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION IN HONOR OF DAVID'S BAR MITZVAH

If you would like to share with the community any special event related to your family please send it to KJA, PO BOX 4235, Mtn View, CA 94040 Att. Josette Selim

"MISHPATIM"

IN FEBRUARY WE WILL BE READING MISHPATIM FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS CHAPTER 21 VERSE 1 TO CHAPTER 24 VERSE 18. THIS READING IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT OUTLINES DIFFERENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS. THE FIRST CHAPTER TELLS US OF LAWS REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF SLAVES AND SERVANTS WHICH STATES THAT WE HAVE TO BE FAIR TO THEM AND NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM. THE CHAPTER THEN DESCRIBES WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IF A VIOLENT CRIME IS COMMITTED FOR INSTANCE MURDER OR KIDNAPPING AND THE PUNISHMENT SUITABLE FOR THESE CRIMES. THE CHAPTER THEN DETAILS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN OWNER IN REGARDS TO HIS LIVESTOCK AND ANIMALS AND HOW THEY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED.

CHAPTER 22 STARTS WITH LAWS REGARDING RESTITUTION AND REPAYMENT FOR CRIMES COMMITTED, SUCH AS FOR EVERY ONE THING THAT IS STOLEN, THE THIEF SHOULD REIMBURSE THE VICTIM FIVE TIMES. THE READING THEN DELINIATES MORAL AND RELIGIOUS LAWS REGARDING INTERCOURSE OUT OF WEDLOCK AND THE FORBIDDING OF CERTAIN SEXUAL ACTS. THE CHAPTER ENDS BY INSTRUCTING US ABOUT MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEEDY.

CHAPTER 23 STATES THAT EVERYONE SHOULD BE FAIR AND THAT NO ONE SHOULD SPREAD FALSEHOOD. WE SHOULD PLANT FOR SIX YEARS AND GIVE OUR FIELDS A REST ON THE SEVENTH AND THAT WE SHOULD CELEBRATE THREE GREAT FESTIVALS EACH YEAR: THE FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVEN BREAD, THE FESTIVAL OF THE CORN HARVEST AND THE FESTIVAL OF SHELTER WHEN WE GATHER THE FRUITS FROM THE ORCHARDS. THE CHAPTER THEN ORDAINES THAT A SHEEP OR A GOAT SHOULD NOT BE COOKED IN ITS MOTHER'S MILK.

CHAPTER 24 TELLS US HOW G-D TOLD MOSES TO GO UP MOUNT SINAI ALONE WHERE HE WAS HANDED A SECOND SET OF STONE TABLETS. MOSES STAYED ON THE MOUNTAIN FOR 40 DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS.

TEWFIK MOURAD

S P R I N G O F L I F E

The Chief Hakham of the Karaites in Israel Haim Levy have published a book titled " Spring of Life". The book is written in hebrew and was sponsored by the children of Rav Mourad Haroun in the memory of their dear brother Jacques Haroun who died in a car accident in the U.S.A.

The content of this writting is based on two of the most important Karaite works namely :

" Adderet Eliahou " by Eliahou ben Moshe Beshiatsi
and " Gan Eden " by Aharon ben Eliahou Nicomedio.

Easy and well organized is the presentation that I thought it will be a good idea to translate few pages.

If this entire book is translated and published (cost \$5,000), it will serve as a comprehensive knowledge to ourselves and our children to defend our faith and the righteousness of our belief. Nowadays to aquire a true knowledge, one must be learned in arabic and hebrew to study the Karaite literature, else continue to read what the Rabanite scholars publish about our very own faith and history.

Translated by: Joe Pessah
In the name of God we work and succeed

WHO ARE THE KARAITES ?

The Karaite jews are an integral part of the people of Israel. They believe in one written Torah, the Torah given by the Almighty to our prophet and teacher Moses in the year 2448 BCE at Mount Sinai after they escaped from Egyptian slavery to freedom. It was massoretically written from generation to generation and it is the Torah found in our hands today.

WHO ARE THE RABANITES ?

The Rabanite Jews believe in the existence of two Torah, one written and the other oral. According to their belief G-d gave an oral Torah to add to the written one. However our sages of blessed memories refuted their words saying that the oral Torah is of human fabrication and not from the Living Lord. It is opposing the written Torah and it is not conceivable that G-d would give two conflicting Torah.

WHAT WAS OUR NAME AT THE BEGINNING BEFORE WE WERE CALLED KARAITES ?

The common knowledge of our sages is that our fathers during the 2nd Temple era were called the Saddikim "Righteous." This name is not to be confused with Siddoukim who had opposing beliefs and do not follow the principles of faith or believe in the reward and the punishment, the eternety of the soul and the resurrection of the dead. Our name changed to Karaites or to " the children of the Scripture " after Anan Hannassi in the 8th century because our faith is based on the TANAKH (Torah, Prohets and Writings) and our fathers were the readers and the reminders of the commands of the Scripture.



WHAT CONSTITUTES SEPHER HATORAH ?

The Torah includes all the commandements and the Laws that G-d gave our teacher Moses to guide the people by what is written and commanded them not to add or substract a word from it as written: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall Ye diminish from it, that ye may keep the commandements of the Lord your G-d which I command you".-Deuteronomy 4;2-

THE TANAKH

The TANAKH is the Book of Books that is greatly sanctified by the people of Israel and contains:

Torah, Prophets and Writings (24 books).

TORAH

The Torah is composed of 5 books : 1- Genesis, 2- Exodus,
3- Leviticus, 4- Numbers and 5- Deuteronomy.

FIRST PROPHETS:

6- Joshua 7- Judges 8- Samuel I,II 9- Kings I,II

SECOND PROPHETS:

10- Isai 11- Yermia 12- Ezekiel
13- Hoshaa, Yoel, Amos, Ovadiah, Yona, Meikha, Nahum,
Habakkuk, Sephania, Haggai, Zekhariah, Malakhi.

14- Psalms, 15- Proverbs, 16- Iyob, 17- Song of Songs
18- Ruth 19- Eikha 20- Kohelet 21- Esther
22- Daniel 23- Ezra and Nehamia 24- Chronicles I,II

end of chapter.

At the end of each chapter there are questions to promote the learning of the material covered. The next chapter is also interesting and discusses the basis of the Karaite faith namely: The Written, the Inference and the Yoke of Inheritance with examples on each. A detailed discussion on the Articles of Faith is followed. These are the essential backbone of the creed. The author makes you proud to be Karaite when he notes that, in all judaism, the pioneer who wrote them was our sage Yehouda ben Eliahou Haddassi.

That leads us up to page 17 in a book of 292 pages. The rest of the chapters cover the festivals, the calendar, the shabbat, the fastings on the ruined Temple, the obligations of the person to his body, the obligations and conditions of the worship, the Laws of ritual cleanliness, the slaughtering the laws of the women, the milah, the laws of mournings, the sanctification and the purity of the family etc.. .



SIMHAT TORAH

DURING SIMHAT TORAH LAST YEAR, KJA CELEBRATED IT WITH ITS LATEST PRIDE POSSESSION: A NEW SEFER TORAH FROM ISRAEL. CARRYING THE SEFER IS MR. ELIE OVADIA SURROUNDED BY PARENTS HELPING THEIR LITTLE KIDS TO TOUCH THE SEFER.



SIMCHAT TORAH IS THE MOST POPULAR JEWISH HOLIDAY FOR THE KIDS. IT GIVES THEM A CHANCE TO RECITE THE SENTENCES OF 'SEMHOV YEDIDIN' AND 'ASHREKHEM'. THEY ARE SO PROUD WHEN THEY WEAR THE TALLITS AND CARRY THE LITTLE SEFERS. LETS NOT FORGET THAT THEY ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO THE \$10.00 GIFT THAT JOE & REMY PESSAH GIVE TO THE KIDS THAT READ. JACOB MOUSSA TOOK A VIDEO OF THE CEREMONY, IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE A COPY PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR REQUEST. YOU WILL SEE OUR FUTURE GENERATION LIFT UP YOUR SPIRIT.

Z E K H E R

The names below were remembered during our monthly Saturday and special prayers. KJA thanks everyone who contributed in their beloved memory.

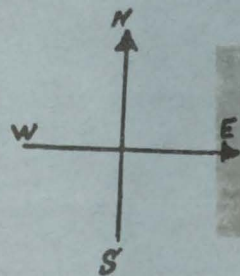
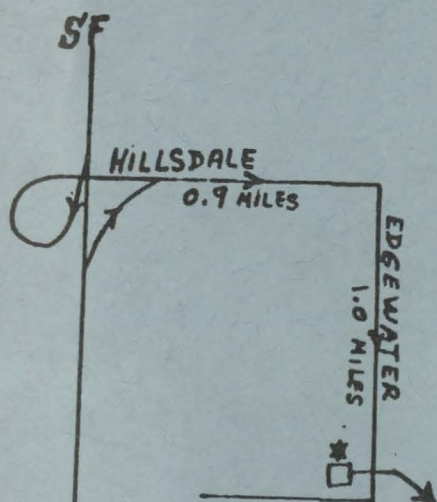
LILIAN EL TAHAN BAT SHALOM PESSAH	DR. BARAKAT MASSUDA
MATILDA SELIM MASSUDA	SHALOM PESSAH
ESTHER YOUSSEF ABDALLA EL AFRANGUI	JOSEPHINE SIAHOU
YOUSSEF LICHAA ISHAAK LICHAA	ELIE LISHA
JOSEPH ZAKI LICHAA ISHAAK	IBRAHIM SOLIMAN LEVY
HOSNA ZAKI LICHAA ISHAAK	RAHEL YONTOB
IVONNE ZAKI LICHAA ISHAAK	SUZANNE HEFEZ
JACQUES LIETO SHABETAI MANGOUBI	LEON DARWISH
LIETO SHABETAI MANGOUBI	IBRAHAM OVADIA
TEWFIK & RAHEL EL GAZZAR	RACHEL MASSOUDA
AMI & FORTUNEE MENACHE	ALAIN COHEN
YAFET ABRAHAM OVADIA	RACHEL COHEN
MATHILDA ELIAHOU MASSUDA	LEON ABDEL WAHED
RAHMIN ZAKARIA HALEVY	TEWFIK LICHAA
SOLTANA SAAD EL DABBAH	AMIN YOUSSEF LICHAA
ZAKARIA RAHMIN ZAKARIA LEVY	HOSNA
AZIZA BAT RAHMIN ZAKARIA LEVY	ZAKIA
BARAKAT IBRAHIM EL GAMIL	AZIZA COHEN
ZAKI IBRAHIM SELIM	ASLAN COHEN
FLORE IBRAHIM ASLAN	FARAG ASLAN
RABBI YOUSSEF MOUSSA MARZOUK	YACOUB ASLAN COHEN
YOUSSEF ELIAHOU PESSAH	NADINE ASLAN COHEN
RACHEL YACOUB KAHIL	FLORE ASLAN COHEN
YOUSSEF MOUSSA PESSAH	MORRIS HABIB
ZAKI HABIB ELIAHU LICHAA	ELIE MARZOUK
YOUSSEF & RAHEL PESSAH	YOUSSEF OVADIA
RAHMIN FARAG LEVY	FORTUNEE MARZOUK
BELLA FARAG SHAMMAS	MOUSSA MOURAD
ZAKI SELIM IBRAHIM	JOE YOUSSEF PESSAH
BAROUKH MASSOUDA	ESTHER MARZOUK
MARY OVADIA DARWISH	YOUSSEF MARZOUK
LIETO IBRAHIM MARZOUK	FARAG MASSOUDA
FLORE SHABETAI DARWISH	NAZLI COHEN

ZEKHER (con'd)

OVADIA SHABETAI DARWISH
 FARAG HAIM MAATOUK
 ZAKI YOUSSEF LICHAA
 FANNY IBRAHIM EL TAWIL
 MOUSSA JACOB EL AFRANGUI
 YOUSSEF IBRAHIM EL TAWIL
 YOUSSEF VITA YOMTOB
 CHALOM IBRAHIM MASSUDA
 YAFET CHALOM MASSOUDA
 DAVID CHALOM MASSOUDA
 BAROUKH IBRAHIM SIAHOU
 FORTUNEE DAUD LICHAA
 FARAG YOUSSEF MASLIAH
 MOUSSA FARAG MASLIAH
 FLORE IBRAHIM ASLAN
 LOUNA BAT BAROUKH COHEN
 RAHEL BAT BAROUKH COHEN
 YOUSSEF BEN LIETO MOURAD
 SATTOUT MANGOUBI
 JACQUES MANGOUBI
 SOLTANA MASSOUDA
 YACOB ELIAHOU ELGAZZAR & ZOGATO
 LIETO FARAG EL SERGANI RASSON
 NAZELA ABELLA DARWISH
 YOUSSEF ISHAK LICHAA & ZOGATO
 SOLOMAN COHEN & ZOGATO STRONGILA
 LIETO & ZOGATO NAZLI MOURAD
 MOUSSA ABRAHAM MASSOUDA
 SUZANNE MASSUDA LEVY
 FANY YACOB MOURAD
 ALBERT BAROUKH LICHAA
 REGINE BAROUKH LICHAA

AMIN MARZOUK
 YOUSSEF YACOB LEVY
 CLAIRE LEVY
 VIVIANNE LEVY
 HABIB YOUNES
 LOUNA YOUNES
 PAULINE MOURAD
 SOLTANA HABIB LICHAA
 HAFEZ ELIAHU TAHAN
 YOUSSEF TAHAN
 HABIB TAHAN
 VITA FARAG MASLIAH
 YOSSEF FARAG MASLIAH
 YESHOUA OVADIA
 RAHEL YOMTOB
 IBRAHIM SOLIMAN LEVY
 FLORE SALEH
 ELIAHOU MANGOUBI
 BAROUKH MANGOUBI
 SARA SALEH
 ZAKI HABIB ELISHA
 SARA AMIN MENACHE
 IBRAHIM MARZOUK
 YOUSSEF MARZOUK
 HOSNA
 RAHEL LICHAA MOURAD
 REGINA MASSUDA
 YACOB MOURAD
 ESTHER DAUD
 ELIE BAROUKH LICHAA
 ZAKI BAROUKH LICHAA

PLEASE JOIN US: FEBRUARY 11, 89
 MARCH 4, 89
 APRIL 1, 89
 MAY 6, 89
 JUNE 10, 89
 JULY 1, 89



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P.O.BOX 4235
MTN VIEW, CA. 94040

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